

MANNINGTON NEWS

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Offices Over Hess Hardware Store, Market StreetMANNINGTON OIL
INDUSTRY SHOWS
GREAT ACTIVITYIndications Point to Increase
in Production—Reflected
in Business Life.

MANNINGTON, Dec. 30.—Oil and gas is one of the chief factors in the industrial life of Mannington, and the business life of the community reflects to a great extent the situation in the oil and gas production in the district.

The situation at present seems to indicate that there is to be increased production in Mannington district, and this has already made itself felt in local business circles. One Mannington merchant, after the Christmas shopping period had ended that he had sold more merchandise in the month of December than he ever had during the same month before.

New wells are being started over the district daily, especially around the States Fork territory. Flat Run, Dent's Run, and Moda Run are also receiving a great deal of attention from local companies.

Yesterday the Joseph Conaway well No. 1 near Farmington was drilled in to the first salt sand, by the Hope Natural Gas Co., and is reported a fair gasser.

The L. Freeland well No. 2 on States Fork, recently completed by the South Penn Oil Co. is estimated making five barrels of oil in the first sand.

Well No. 1 on the James Rice lease, States Fork, owned by James Allen and Co., is being drilled by contractor H. Alfred at 100 feet.

At M. Mason well No. 1 on States Fork has been completed by Carnegie Gas Co. It is making little better than 1,000,000 feet gas.

The Eastern Petroleum Corporation is drilling on its L. Freeland well No. 1 on States Fork, at a depth of 90 feet yesterday.

Well No. 2 on the N. W. Talkington lease on Moda Run is being drilled for drilling by the Eastern Petroleum Corporation.

The Eastern Petroleum Corporation is drilling the Jane Michael well No. 1 on States Fork, at a depth of 200 feet in the Indiana.

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Pithy Paragraphs
From Mannington

No, all those people walking like they had corns or bunions. This morning didn't have sore feet.

It was the ice on the pavements.

Most of the old birds grumble about this winter weather, but gosh, how the youngsters thrive on it—or in it.

Isn't it strange how a man forgets his boyish ability to adapt himself to any climate?

It takes more than a severe weather to stop Fords from rambling right along, though.

The mob that spoke so discouragingly about the city government Monday night must have scared all the policemen away.

Have you seen one today?

Everybody says, "Let Ben do it," but he can't do it all.

We've heard about chain letters, but this is the first time we ever knew you have to chain policemen—to keep one on the job.

Maybe they're like a lounge lizard's suit—a new one every day.

Why not make a New Year's resolution to invite your friends to see your cellar?

And if you can't open up your heart—open your bottle.

Mannington Churches

First M. E. Church.

"Looking Backward" is the sermon theme announced by the Rev. John Beddow for his morning sermon at 10:45 in the First M. E. Church tomorrow. The church choir will sing an anthem at this service. Sunday school will be held at 9:30, under the supervision of L. S. Schwenck. Music will be furnished by the Sunday school orchestra.

The evening services will be out of the ordinary, beginning with a layman's service at 8 o'clock. At this time there will be several addresses by laymen of the church. Special music will also be furnished by the choir.

At 9 o'clock the service will be in charge by the Epworth League. Some special musical numbers will be given, as well as addresses by the president of the league, Cleo Haight, and others.

A social hour, beginning at 10 o'clock, will last until 10:45. Light refreshments will be served at this time. At 10:45 the Watch-Night service will begin, continuing until 12 o'clock. The theme will be "Giving to Christ." The pastor today issued a cordial invitation to attend all these services.

The sermon theme announced by the Rev. J. V. Koonits, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, for tomorrow morning at 10:45 is "The Battle of Life." Special music will be furnished at this morning service. Sunday school will begin at 9:30 under the supervision of the superintendent, Charles W. Hurd. Music will be furnished by the orchestra.

In the evening at 7:30 the pastor will preach from the subject, "Regaining the Time." Christian Endeavor will be held at the regular hour, 6:45.

Next week has been designated as a "week of prayer," and the different organizations of the church will have charge of the services on different evenings.

Tuesday evening will be in charge of the Calendar Coterie. Wednesday evening will be set aside for the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society. The Westminster Guild will conduct the service Thursday evening and on Friday night the annual preparatory service will be held.

MRS. GEO. BELTCH DIES AT BERKELEY SPRINGS

Mrs. Margaret Leveille Beltch, 60 years old, of Sunshine, near Mannington, died at 2 o'clock this morning at Berkeley Springs, where she had been for some time for the benefit of her health.

She is the wife of George Beltch of Sunshine, who survives her, as do also two daughters, Mrs. G. T. Young and Mrs. O. E. Simms, both of Sunshine.

The body will arrive at Mannington at 7:15 o'clock this evening and will be taken in charge by Frank Lazear. No funeral arrangements have been made at this time.

URGES SUPPORT OF WILL OF MAJORITY

DUBLIN, Dec. 30.—George Russell, who as a poet and writer is known as "A. E.," and who recently was nominated a senator in the Free State parliament, has contributed an open letter to the press in which he makes a thorough explanation of the present position of Ireland and appeals to Eamon De Valera and his followers to accept the will of the majority and retire gracefully from civil conflict. If such conflict is continued, he says, it would be disastrous to the nation at its very outset.

In plain words the senator tells the people that the majority consider the Republicans, not the Free State government, not the source of their suffering.

SPECIAL LEAVES
MONDAY EVENINGLocal Men Will Entrain for
Lower Rio Grande
Valley Tour.

MANNINGTON, Dec. 30.—D. T. Youker of Texas is here to make final preparations and prepare the tickets for those leaving the Clarksburg Monday night at 12:40 o'clock for the lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas.

There will be two cars carrying people from Clarksburg, Morgantown, Fairmont, Mannington, and intermediate points. The entire cost of the trip, including meals and berth, is \$100.

This is the fourth trip out of West Virginia, and plans now provide for other groups to leave every two weeks. On this occasion several local men will be represented.

Many men from Fairmont, Clarksburg, and Morgantown have bought small farms in the Rio Grande Valley, expecting to make their homes there, and many others have bought as an investment.

The lower Rio Grande Valley is particularly a grape fruit district, it is said, and irrigation projects have already begun to furnish a plentiful water supply. Mr. Youker stated today that "if the land and climate do not sell farms to the people who go to Texas from here they will never buy, because the country, itself is its best salesman."

Crops grow in this valley for twelve months in the year, it is said. At this time people there are gathering grape fruit and oranges, a rather unusual sight for West Virginians, who will leave this state in mid-winter.

Mannington Personals

George Hart has returned from a business trip to Washington, Pa.

Lester Hess will return to Morgantown Tuesday where he is attending West Virginia University. Mr. Hess has spent the holidays at his home here.

Mrs. Dr. Bradford of Martins Ferry, Ohio, is visiting friends here for a few days.

Paul Stillings of Dumas was a business visitor in this city last evening.

Ken Phillips was the guest of friends in Fairmont last evening. Glenn Rymer was a business visitor in Fairmont yesterday.

Miss Rose Pickett is the guest of Miss Sue Slater in High Street. Miss Edna Smith will return Monday after spending her holidays at her home in Homer City, Pa.

Miss Melissa Patterson will return Monday after spending her holidays at her home in Waynesburg, Pa.

Lillian Jolauston was a visitor in Mannington, last evening. Guy Hunter is very ill at his home in Houghton.

Prucilla and Ella Kate Wemple left for their home in Wheeling after a several days visit with Mary Joe Mathews of this city.

Miss Lucile Hennen is visiting her parents at Metz.

Miss Sarah Tinnin of Clarksburg is the guest of Miss Adaline Downs of Howard Street.

Ray Rex was a visitor in town last evening.

Miss Nancy Lone is ill at her home on Main street.

Little Laura Alice Looman who has been quite ill the past week is again able to be out.

Howard Coleman of Farmington was a business visitor in the city yesterday.

Edwin Haught returned to Mannington yesterday after a several days visit with friends in Elkins.

Chief of Police Eflaw is very ill, with an attack of influenza at his home on Main street.

Marcus Cillon was a visitor in this city last evening.

Sam Raborn has returned from Texas to spend the holidays with his family on Center street.

Miss Edith and Neva Monroe were visitors in Fairmont yesterday.

H. A. Sybert will return to Charleston Sunday after spending the Xmas vacation with his family on Pyles Fork Ave.

DOWN

From School

Marcus Gillon and Fred Gillon, who have been attending St. Edwards Preparatory School in Huntington, are spending the Christmas holidays at their homes here.

Bake Sale

Members of the Ladies Aid held a bake sale at the company store this afternoon. Good things of all sorts were offered to the public.

Had Guests

Mrs. Edward Rothlisberger was hostess to a number of relatives Thursday. They were Mrs. Calvin Matheny and daughter, Reva, Mrs. "Jaki" Blubaugh, Mrs. Flora Evans and daughter, Mrs. Harry Marks of Baxter; Mrs. Albert Bauman of Steubenville, O.; Mr. Adda Parrish and son, Buddy, of Fairmont.

Ladies Aid Bazaar

Members of the Ladies Aid

held their Christmas bazaar at the home of Mrs. Jack Cumberland, one day last week. The women had made great preparations for this affair, and the secretary, Mrs. D. Michael, reported favorable returns.

Coal Burning

Fire was discovered in the 6000 ton shortage coal pile at the Rachel Mine Wednesday, the result of spontaneous combustion. Laborers have been busy trying to extinguish the fire, and it is believed that they now have it under control. The loss cannot be estimated at this time.

Pleasant Entertainment

Mrs. Herman Blake was a very charming hostess to members of the cast on the play "The Old Tyme Skel," which was presented by members of the Presbyterian Church recently. The evening was spent with music and games, and late in the evening delicious refreshments were served by the hostess.

The guest list included Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Orr, Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Al Smith, Mrs. Howard Williams, Mrs. Blaine Poling, Mrs. Tully McElfresh, Mrs. Jack Cumberland, Mrs. Zana Joy, Mrs. Price Brand, Miss Margaret Huges, Miss Frances Kelly, Miss Margaret Williams, Miss Josephine Graham, Miss Nell Poling, John Graham, Henry Marshall, Percy Johnson, and Dan Smith.

Personals

Mrs. Mervin Sullings has returned from Gassaway, where she spent the Christmas vacation with her mother.

E. J. Garner and M. W. Culley of Fairmont and Pittsburgh were business visitors at the mines here yesterday.

Rex Shambien is confined to his home on Rachel Hill by an attack of tonsillitis.

Mrs. Frank Gillon and son, Mark, were visitors in Mannington yesterday.

Fred Shambien was a recent guest of his brother, Grover Shambien, in Uniontown, Pa., who has been in the hospital because of injuries received from burns not long ago.

Miss Lillian Ward and Miss Faye Ferrell were visiting friends in Farmington Friday evening.

Frank Miller is a business visitor in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mrs. Pearl Gould and Mrs. Mary Gould of Marietta, Ohio, are guests at the home of the latter's daughter, Mrs. Price Brand.

Mrs. J. Merrifield and children have returned to their home in Fairmont after having been the guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Reamer on Rachel Hill.

POLICE SEEKING HIDDEN JEWELS

Frozen Body of Aged Woman in Bronx Found—Believed to Have Big Hoard.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Police today placed a guard around the Bronx home of Mrs. Minetta S. Marsh, 70, when they learned that the woman, whose frozen body was discovered last night, had kept thousands of dollars' worth of jewels in a secret panel.

Detectives searched all night for the jewels. Their only discovery was a hidden spring in an antique cabinet which threw open a drawer and revealed apparently a draft of the woman's will, addressed to an attorney.

The medical examiners said the woman had been dead from three to five days. Water pipes had burst and the floors were covered with ice.

A neighbor saw Mrs. Marsh last Friday when she told him that she planned to attend a social affair at the Waldorf Astoria hotel Christmas Day and that she intended to wear all her jewels. He understood they were worth more than \$10,000.

Everything about the home indicated she was a woman of means and refinement.

She was a close friend of Gerold Sherman, the neighbor said.

Farmington Church Holds 'Watch Service' Tomorrow

Featured by addresses, ten minute speeches and special music, a "watch night service" will be held in the Methodist Episcopal Church of Farmington, beginning at 8 o'clock tomorrow night.

The service will open with the meeting of the Epworth League, and will be followed at 9 o'clock by an address by the Rev. S. M. Malcolm, pastor of the church. At 9:30 o'clock there will be a song and prayer service with special music, after which ten minute speeches will be made by W. E. Maple, R. S. Ridenour and Jack Toothman.

At 10:30 o'clock there will be intermission and a social hour, and light refreshments will be served. "What Tidings Would Do for Our Church" will be discussed by J. J. Jenkins at 11 o'clock and another song and prayer service will be held at 11:15 o'clock.

At 11:30 o'clock the Rev. C. E. Leatherby will speak, and the closing period, devotion, and entertainment will be at 11:50 o'clock, followed by the benediction.

STOCKS REFLECT IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS WORLD

Many Predictions of Further Business Prosperity in Country Evident.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—(By The Associated Press)—Stocks and bonds generally close the year at materially higher levels, which is only a reflection of the marked improvement that has taken place in the present time.

The prediction of further business prosperity is based on several well known facts. Foremost among these is the easiness of the money market and huge sums available for commercial credit.

In addition most stocks of merchandise are low, railroad traffic is close to record levels, exports are increasing, the principal European exchanges are heading back to par and the European economic situation shows signs of improvement, exports are increasing and unfilled orders for railroad equipment are the largest in years. Other favorable signs are seen in the facts that no big strikes are threatened or pending, a great amount of construction work is still in arrears despite a record breaking year of activity in the building industry, automobile production reached a new peak, which probably will be exceeded next year, while gasoline consumption has been the highest in history and electric companies are doing a record business.

Sales of stocks during the year totaled approximately 280,000,000 shares as compared with 171,000,000 last year, 223,000,000 in 1920, and 307,300,000 in 1919. The record breaking year of 1919 when post-war inflation was at its height. Bond sales this year reached the unprecedented total of approximately \$4,155,000,000 as against \$3,505,000,000 in 1921, \$3,945,000,000 in 1920 and \$3,775,000,000 in 1919. The peak of bond prices for the year was reached in the middle of September and the lowest level early in January.

One of the features of the bond market was the return of United States government war bonds to par, the refunding of the Victory notes, and barring war loans not yet refunded, the record breaking volume of foreign government, corporate and municipal flotations, which reached a total of \$685,16,000 for the first ten months of 1922 as compared with \$403,100,000 during the same period in 1921.

The widest fluctuation in the stock market took place in shares of the Atlantic Refining Co., seldom dealt in, which ranged from a low of \$900 to a high of \$1,675, or \$675 difference. Among the active industrial issues Mexican Petroleum provided the chief feature, getting as low as 106 3/4 and as high as 322, or a range of 215 1/4 points. Approximately 95 per cent of this stock has been acquired through conversion by the Pan-American Petroleum & Transport Co., thus virtually removing it as a market factor. Among the railroad shares Michigan Central fluctuated the most, selling between 156 and 330, or 174 points. The smallest fluctuation took place in Alaska Gold Mines, which sold between 7-8 and 1-4 of \$1.00. Another in-

She Got "Doc" to Prescribe



But not what you think. Her baby had pneumonia, and the coal-less house was cold and damp, so Mrs. Albert Chapman of Dorchester, Mass., had the doctor prescribe a load of coal. The local dealer filled it, and announced that doctor's prescriptions would give precedence in the future. Looks as if there might be more "fakel" ailments for the doctors to treat.

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teresting development in the stock market was the declaration of stock dividends totalling more than \$2,000,000,000.

While most industries showed substantial recovery from post-war inflation, the number of large enterprises during the year was the largest on record and the volume of liabilities next to the largest ever recorded. Severe labor troubles, particularly the miners' and shopmen's strikes, also had disastrous effects, costing each of the principal railroad systems millions of dollars and even more to business generally. For the first time on record there were a marked shortage of manual labor due in part to the restriction of immigration whereas in 1921 the number of unemployed was estimated as high as 4,000,000 or 5,000,000.

Crops with few exceptions were of record size, and the higher prices brought vastly greater purchasing power to the agricultural regions, particularly the South. The foreign demand for foodstuffs was not very heavy until near the close of the year. Exports as a whole were the smallest since 1915 although in November they were \$93,000,000 over those of November, 1921, and the highest since March, 1921.

The year closes with conditions favorable for a further appreciation of commodity and security prices in the opinion of the financial community. Unfavorable and unexpected developments in the political and economic situation abroad are generally considered as the only probable obstacles to arrest the improvement in the business and financial world, which began in the summer of 1921 and has continued with few temporary interruptions until the present time.

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